

TRAFFIC ALERT

4 p.m.

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE Feb. 10, 2010 CONTACT: Sandy Myers 540-332-9201 (office) STA10-062

540-292-2500 (cell)

Sandy.Myers@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Marshall Barnhill 540-332-9264 (office)

540-414-5670 (cell)

Marshall.Barnhill@VDOT.Virginia.gov

BLOWING AND DRIFTING SNOW CONTINUE IN SHENANDOAH VALLEY

STAUNTON – (4 p.m.) Snow has stopped falling in the Shenandoah Valley but high winds continue throughout the area causing blowing and drifting snow.

Virginia Department of Transportation crews and contractors continue to plow and treat the roads. Motorists are reminded that plowed roads can be covered again by blowing and drifting snow.

Driving conditions remain hazardous throughout the Shenandoah Valley, particularly in the northern portion. Driving is not advised in the Shenandoah Valley area.

Late Afternoon Road Conditions:

Interstate 64 – Minor conditions in Alleghany and Augusta counties. Clear in Rockbridge County.

Interstate 66 – Minor conditions in Warren County.

Interstate 81 – Minor conditions in Augusta, Rockingham, Frederick and Shenandoah counties. Clear conditions in Rockbridge County.

Primary roads – Severe conditions in Clarke County. Severe to moderate conditions in Frederick County. Moderate conditions in Highland, and Warren counties. Moderate to minor conditions in Rockbridge and Shenandoah counties. Minor conditions in Alleghany, Bath, Augusta, Rockingham and Page counties.

Secondary roads are in severe condition in Shenandoah, Frederick, Clarke and Warren counties. Moderate conditions in Rockbridge, Alleghany, Bath, Highland, Augusta, Rockingham and Page counties.

Motorists are reminded that ice and freezing rain conditions can still produce hazardous driving conditions, even when roads are treated. People who are driving in winter road conditions should use extra caution particularly on bridges, overpasses, curves, hills and ramps.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. In areas where 511 is unavailable, dial 1-866-MY511VA (866-695-1182). Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at 511Virginia.org.

For a chart of winter weather road conditions go the www.511Virginia.org site, look to the left side of the page and click on the "Road Conditions" bar. A map will appear with color coded roads. Right above the map is a link reading: "Click here for a list of road conditions, including secondary roads". Click on this link, then in the drop-down box click on the desired county or Virginia statewide. A text box of road conditions will appear.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

#

Closed – Roadway is closed; impassable

Severe – Significant accumulations of snow or ice blocking the roadway; conditions are hazardous

Moderate – Snow or ice covering a major portion of the roadway; passable with caution Minor – Advisory, potential for icy patches or snow on roadway; passable with caution

(END)